



**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Church Year Colors & Seasons
- Reflections on Adult Education Programs
- Upcoming liturgical days
- Birthdays in the coming months

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A Primer on the Church Year: Colors & Seasons

The Episcopal Church is rather eclectic when it comes to ecclesiological matters. We embrace a wide breadth of expressions and practices taken mostly from the Roman Catholic tradition and the Protestant reformed tradition like that influenced by Luther and Calvin. Some say that the Anglican tradition which we represent is the best of both extremes, thus having often been referred to as the Via Media or Middle way.

Oftentimes in our parishes we find examples of this in worship. The high church tradition will find the liturgies including, incense, chanting, sanctus bells, gestures like bowing and crossing oneself at different occasions, ornate vestments, etc. You really need a play book to follow along lest the liturgical gymnastics of kneeling, standing, bowing, genuflecting will leave you out of step. Often these churches are bedecked with stained glass windows, and even a few well placed statues or images of saints or iconography.

Within the same Episcopal church there are parishes who practice a low church version of liturgy where there is very little ritual. There are no stained glass windows and the look of the church is rather simple and measured. Colonial pews with white walls. No statues or images at all. The pulpit is often the most imposing structure in the worship space drawing one's attention as the Word of God is greatly highlighted in the liturgy. The altars in contrast are simple tables.

And yes, as to be expected among Anglicans we have what is often referred to as the broad church tradition which is a mixture of the high and low. This is what might describe the liturgy here at St Luke's.

One of the downsides to such a tradition is that sometimes rituals or practices are used without understanding their history. In some parishes they end up doing things like vesting the chalice and paten and placing it on the altar for personal adoration. This devotion would be somewhat in keeping with the Roman Catholic custom of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament but in this case there is nothing to adore but an empty plate and an empty cup.

Since Lent is upon us let us take one example of the practice of having the crosses in the nave of the church draped in black cloth throughout Lent. Each Lent I keep getting asked that question: Are we draping the crosses with black cloth in Lent? My answer is no. But I guess we all deserve a better reason for why not?

Pending research beyond my own lived experience, I would say that this practice is a version of the Lenten practice in the Roman Catholic tradition where the crosses are covered because they bear the image of the body of Jesus having been crucified. Most if not all our crosses at St Luke's are without the crucified Christ therefore do not need to be draped in that manner. We in turn, use a purple sash to remind us of our Lenten season of penitence and fasting.

~Ken+

Here's a fun match game for you!

Draw a line connecting the appropriate color(s) with the feast.

Red

White

Green

Blue

Purple

Christmas

Pentecost

Easter

Ordinary Time

Advent

Lent

Passion Sunday

Holy Week

A special prize will be awarded to the person who gets the correct answers! Send your finished matchings to Fr. Ken!

Kindness is Contagious

Pandemic times can arouse fear, distrust, suspicion, and rage toward others as we isolate to protect ourselves. Yet, the human family is interconnected. We need to interact for our emotional health.

A kindness received powerfully restores our wellbeing; we ponder it gratefully, resolving to pay it forward. When we are the donor, we bask in the heartwarming glow of giving to others.

During the summer, a new family moved into a house two doors away from us. Both of our adult children also were moving, and preoccupied with their activities, I didn't go to greet the new neighbors, as I usually do.

The autumn decorations the new family put in their yard were not ordinary Halloween ones, but I was too busy with millions of leaves

in our yard to notice that they commemorated Dia de los Muertos.

On October 31st, I saw the costumed family of adults, children, and a babe-in-arms walking on our busy street. I dropped my rake, swooped into the house for the basket of goodies, ran out the front door and across our lawn to greet them -- at last -- in person. Adults and kids each graciously accepted a candy as they continued their march. Only later did I realize that these were not potential tricksters looking for a treat, but participants in a holiday parade which honored their deceased loved ones.

A few days later the doorbell rang. The mother and her 8-year-old son introduced themselves. She said, "Patricio said that you were kind to us, and he wants to help you with the leaves." She came several more times (as did other neighbors).

We worked together for hours, eventually getting the last of those leaf piles to the road, simultaneously with the vacuum truck, whose attendant, kindly, used his own rake to augment our "last-ditch" efforts.

January 6 is the celebration of Epiphany or Tres Reyes when the Magi brought gifts. Masked, I rang the neighbors' bell with books for the children as a token of my gratitude to this thoughtful family. The mother thanked me saying "You are so kind!" as I was saying to her, "You are so kind! Thank you!"

Especially during this time of social distancing, when loneliness and despair can become overwhelming, let us stay connected heart-to-heart with others by generously spreading kind words and deeds.

-Priscilla E. Petersen

Meet the Vestry: Gail Murray



Tell us about you!

I am from Peabody, Massachusetts. I have one adult child, Case Van Belzen, who we adopted from Guatemala at 7 months old. I also have an English Cocker Spaniel, Lily. She is 2 years old and helped me through COVID with her puppiness. Oh my, I retired from Xerox in 2007. I was a college hire and spent 25 years in the Human Resource and Services areas.

How long have you been a member of St. Luke's?

My son and I became members in 2012. I am a cradle Episcopalian.

What areas of ministry do you enjoy the most?

Where I can make a difference, but especially Hospitality

What is something that excites you about St. Luke's?

I enjoy the small church size and the wonderful Parishioners. We are all family.

Lightning Round!

What is your favorite...

| | | | |
|--------------|--|--------------|-------------------------|
| Color: | Green | Food: | Lobster |
| Candy: | Bullseyes | Store: | SoleMate |
| Book: | "The Nightingale" by Kristen Hannah | Season: | Fall |
| Movie: | Titanic | Animal: | English Cocker Spaniels |
| Flower: | Gardenia | Sports team: | Red Sox |
| Bible verse: | "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" Philippians 4:13 | | |

Meet the Vestry: Brian Bacon

Tell us about you!

I was raised in Webster and have lived in the Rochester area my whole life. I am married (Beth) with two young boys, AJ (5) and Henry (8). I live in Macedon on 10 acres which I share with two cats, one dog, and six chickens.

How long have you been a member of St. Luke's?

Almost 3 years



What areas of ministry do you enjoy the most?

I haven't explored ministry long enough to answer this

What is something that excites you about St. Luke's?

Knowing that I can make a difference (or, more accurately, share my gifts in a gratifying way)

Lightning Round!

What is your favorite...

| | |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| Color: | Blue |
| Candy: | Kit-Kat |
| Book: | A History of Ancient Britain |
| Movie: | Christmas Vacation |
| Flower: | Lilac |
| Bible verse: | |

| | |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| Food: | Indian Cuisine |
| Store: | Wegmans |
| Season: | All, for different reasons |
| Animal: | Dog |
| Sports team: | Bills |



Reflections on the Christian Nationalism Classes

I wanted to take a minute of everyone's time to share a summary and my thoughts on the joint St. Luke's & Bethlehem Lutheran classes on Christian Nationalism. As you recall, this was a two-part class (held 1/24 and 1/31/22) via zoom. Over 60 people registered! The first class (featuring Fr. Bill Petersen) focused on U.S. History and Christianity along with the relationships involving patriotism, nationalism, racism, and white supremacy. The second class (featuring Pastors Amy Walter-Paterson and Abby Hoffman from Bethlehem Lutheran) divided participants into discussion groups.

The groups explored two questions:

- 1) Where do you experience a tension (or even a conflict) between your convictions as a Christian and being an American citizen – in your congregation, in your neighborhood/community, in this country?
- 2) What next step might you take – as an individual – in resolving that tension?

In early February, a survey was sent to all participants. Before going over the results, I want to reflect on some observations and experiences that I have had which tie in with some of Fr. Bill's talk, especially in the areas of racism and white privilege, and also the "tensions" I feel as a Christian in response to some of the social justice issues currently confronting us.

Over the month of February, I have been an observer in the Monroe County Juvenile Criminal Court. The juvenile court is meant for younger people who have been accused of felonies in Monroe County. My observer status is part of a joint project between the NYS Court System and UCLM (United Christian Leadership Ministry). We are looking for instances of unconscious bias in the courts. So far, I have seen no real issues regarding the judge or their staff. They are fair and treat others with respect. What I have noticed are some potential glaring system issues:

- In the juvenile court proceedings I have observed, all of the court staff are white. I have done six observations and have yet to see a black person working there.
- All of the defendants I observed are Black or Hispanic. The majority, I assume, are poor, as most use public defenders. I was talking to one of the public defenders and asked him why there were no white kids in court, as I am sure that white kids must commit felonies. The attorney did not answer the question, but did tell me that any young person accused of a felony in Monroe County will end up in the court. These types of cases are not handled in the town and village courts throughout the area.
- The court proceedings are technical and bureaucratic. Half the time, I don't truly understand what is going on and I wonder how much the defendants understand what is happening to them. In the hallway outside the court, I have witnessed interactions between Public Defenders and their clients that lead me to believe that they are meeting with their clients for the first time five to ten minutes before court goes into session.

Please understand that these observations are based on a very limited number of interactions and one can't really draw any conclusions from them, however they are a little concerning. They create an inner conflict in myself, involving Fr. Kens sermons, my comfortable existence in Fairport, and disturbing issues going on "right under my nose."

My questions are:

- What does everyone else feel about the above three potential systems issues?
- What should our role as Christians be regarding these issues?

So, where to begin?

Education is always a first good step. In reviewing the summary of the survey we sent out (see image), we see that there was interest in further discussion of the issues in Fr. Bill's talk. Nearly everyone wanted a further exploration about Christian Nationalism as well as other social issues.

One possible step would be to expand our book group featuring Black authors, which is facilitated by Holly Wolf and Jean Keplinger. With Holly and Jean in agreement, we will be extending an invitation to Bethlehem Lutheran Church to join us (Fr. Ken has told me that the First Congregational UCC has also expressed an interest in joining). Another step would be to explore other adult education topics jointly with Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

If you are interested in joining me in this adventure, feel free to contact me or the church office!

- Dave Prener

Christian Nationalism Post Class Survey - Summary

17 People responded!

Question 1: What did you find most useful about the presentations?

Overall, most felt the topic was timely. They appreciated Fr. Bill's talk - liked the historical perspective and cleared up confusion re. the difference between nationalism and patriotism. Participants also appreciated combining two churches as well as the small group discussions - got different perspectives here.

Question 2: What do you wish had been done differently?

Fr. Bill's class could have benefited from some slides/powerpoint. Overall - with the restrictions of zoom, things went pretty well.

Question 3: Would you be interested in further learning and discussion opportunities similar to this one?

Nearly everyone responded "Yes"

Question 4: If yes, what topics would interest you?

Participants wanted to know more about Christian Nationalism as well as other social issues - immigration, racism, critical race theory, violence, poverty, our current divisions as well as how to converse across party and religious political lines (someone mentioned the Braver Angels Podcast).

Question 5: Any additional questions or comments?

General thanks. One person wanted a further deep dive into how certain supposedly "Christian" groups act in ways contrary to the teachings of Jesus. Another discussed the "Tenuous" relation between Christian Nationalism and the Jan 6 riot. Felt the Jan 6 riot was more of an attempted political coup.

Where to we go from here?

1. The St. Lukes book group would love to have Bethlehem Lutheran join. We are reading books by black authors. Our current book is: "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass" written by Frederick Douglass.
2. More Bethlehem Lutheran/St. Lukes Adult Ed collaborations
3. Discussion groups?

MARCH 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| | | 1  | 2 Ash Wednesday  | 3 Choir Practice 7pm  | 4 | 5 Theology Pub 7pm Zoom |
| 6 First Sunday in Lent | 7 Lenten Study with Fr. Bill | 8 Book Group | 9 Lenten Study with Fr. Ken | 10 Choir Practice 7pm  | 11  | 12 Theology Pub 7pm Zoom |
| 13 Second Sunday in Lent  | 14 Lenten Study with Fr. Bill | 15 Vestry Meeting 7pm  | 16 Lenten Study with Fr. Ken | 17 Choir Practice 7pm | 18 | 19 Theology Pub 7pm Zoom  |
| 20 Third Sunday in Lent | 21 Lenten Study with Fr. Bill | 22  | 23 Lenten Study with Fr. Ken | 24 Choir Practice 7pm | 25 | 26 Theology Pub 7pm Zoom |
| 27 Fourth Sunday in Lent | 28  | 29 | 30 Lenten Study with Fr. Ken  | 31 Choir Practice 7pm | | |

APRIL 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|-----------------------|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 Theology Pub 7pm Zoom |
| 3 Fifth Sunday in Lent  | 4 | 5 | 6 Lenten Study with Fr. Ken  | 7 Choir Practice 7pm | 8 | 9 Theology Pub 7pm Zoom |
| 10 Palm Sunday | 11 Fairport Historical Society | 12 | 13 | 14 Maundy Thursday | 15 Good Friday | 16 Easter Vigil—YouTube |
| 17 Easter Sunday | 18 | 19 Vestry Meeting 7pm | 20 | 21 Choir Practice 7pm  | 22 | 23 Theology Pub 7pm Zoom  |
| 24 Second Sunday of Easter  | 25  | 26 | 27 | 28 Choir Practice 7pm | 29  | 30 Theology Pub 7pm Zoom |

MAY 2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|-----------------------------|
| 1 Third Sunday of Easter | 2 | 3  | 4 Choir Practice 7pm  | 5  | 6  | 7 Theology Pub 7pm Zoom |
| 8 Fourth Sunday of Easter | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 Choir Practice 7pm | 13 | 14 Theology Pub 7pm Zoom |
| 15 Fifth Sunday of Easter | 16 | 17 Vestry Meeting 7pm | 18 | 19 Choir Practice 7pm | 20 | 21 Theology Pub 7pm Zoom |
| 22 Sixth Sunday of Easter | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26 Choir Practice 7pm | 27 | 28 Theology Pub 7pm Zoom |
| 29 Seventh Sunday of Easter | 30  | 31  | | | | |

March, April, & May Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| March 1—Andy Jasie | April 3—Lynn Steenburgh | May 3—Kathy Guglielmi |
| March 2—Richard Barbato | April 6—Wyatt Loblaw | May 4—Mary Ellen Ennis |
| March 3—Bonnie Wasson | April 21—Andy Rodman | May 5—Warren Knapp |
| March 10—Mery Pepin | April 23—Sally Hurlbut | May 6—Peggy Verna |
| March 11—Robert Hurlbut | April 24—Carole Gorski | May 23—Matt Stever |
| March 13—Richard Allen | April 24—Gerri Van Elzakker | May 23—Jim Hanss |
| March 13—Michael Panara | April 25—Ronald Allen | May 24—Lyla Stevens |
| March 15—Dominick Gasbarre | April 29—Kathy Dorr | May 25—Adelynn Stevens |
| March 19—David Richardson | | May 30—Ally Schwarz |
| March 22—Donald Roemermann | | May 31—Edna Schuttee |
| March 28—Deborah Silver | | |
| March 28—Scott Loblaw | | |
| March 30—Sandy Mauro | | |

If your birthday or anniversary is missing from our list and you would like it included, please email the church office at slukefpt@frontiernet.net



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Twitter: [@stlukesfairport](https://twitter.com/stlukesfairport)

Instagram: [@stlukesfairport](https://www.instagram.com/stlukesfairport)

8:00am—Holy Eucharist

A quiet service; no music

10:00am—Holy Eucharist

Organ/piano music; Children's Christian

Education for all children ages Pre-K through
12th grade

**From July 4th to Labor Day,
there is one service with music at 9:00am**

Our service is always available on YouTube

Find our Sunday Worship Playlist at:
<https://bit.ly/StLukesSundayWorship>

Find our YouTube Channel at:
<https://bit.ly/StLukesFairportYouTube>

Office Hours: Tues.-Fri. 9:00am—1:00pm

We are an open, Christ-centered community, caring for each other, and doing God's work in the world.



HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT VOLUNTEERING IN ANOTHER MINISTRY AT CHURCH? HAVE YOU FELT CALLED TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN NEW WAYS? CONSIDER THIS YOUR OPEN INVITATION!!

Many different ministries at St. Luke's could use an extra volunteer or two!

There is a need for volunteers throughout all ministries but especially in...

Children's Christian Education (Sunday School)

Property Commission

Acolytes for the 8am & 10am services

Outreach

Lectors & Intercessors for the Recorded Services

Altar Guild

Adult Education Coordinators

Greeters & Ushers